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# WRL NEWS

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*No. 151*

## IF WE WERE A BUSINESS WE WOULD BE BANKRUPT

We want to apologize as deeply as we can to all those who placed calendar orders in September and October and then didn't get their Gandhi calendars until the end of December or early January. The calendars did not reach us until December 15, and all orders were filled (by staff overtime) within 5 days. If we were organized as a business we would not be late—or else we would be bankrupt. We aren't a business, we are sorry about the delays, grateful beyond words for your patience, and we want to let you know that we have several thousand calendars still on hand. They have been highly praised by those who have gotten their orders and are available for $1.75 each, $5 for 3, $10 for 6.

## VIGIL

*photo by Joyce Smith*

On December 1, Prisoners for Peace Day, WRL conducted a vigil at the gate of the Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Connecticut. Among the 40 vigilers were Ralph DiGia and Jim Peck, jailed there as COs in world war 2 and Tom Cornell, freed Nov. 23 after a 6-month term for draft card burning.

## PRISON and VISIT

*photo by Diana Davies*

A precedent in prison visiting was established on December 21 when 700 supporters visited imprisoned war resisters at the Federal Prison Camp, Allenwood, Pennsylvania. The idea of a mass visit originated with Ross Flanagan, a New York Quaker, and was supported by nine peace organizations including WRL. Under the final agreement negotiated with U.S. Prisons Director Myrl Alexander and the Allenwood warden, visiting was to take place at the prison camp's chapel from 9 until 11:30, with as many visitors as could be accommodated. This photo shows a contingent boarding the government bus which shuttled visitors between the gate and the chapel. About 300 who journeyed to Allenwood did not get in to visit.

## BERTRAND RUSSELL BACKS CZECH PROJECT

We have had several letters from friends of the League who asked why we had taken part in the WRI action project to protest the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. (This action was briefly described in the last issue of WRL NEWS, and in WIN, and in great detail in the current issue of War Resistance, WRI's quarterly, available from our office for 25c) We think the best answer to critics is a statement issued by Bertrand Russell on September 24, 1968:

"The War Resisters' International whose members have never been cold warriors or apologists for aggression, has not only earned the right to condemn the invasion but has accepted it as a duty to help the peoples of the invading countries to understand the realities of the situation in Czechoslovakia. I earnestly hope that today's demonstration by long-standing opponents of NATO and the war in Vietnam will help to make known the absence of justification for the invasion and diminish the threat of persecution of Czechoslovaks who have played a leading role in asserting their right to determine their own road to socialism."

Russell's statement is a forceful reminder that the pacifist movement in any nation is concerned not only about the acts committed by the government of that nation. Linked through the WRI, such movements are international in their viewpoint and in their actions.

## DRAFT LITERATURE

HANDBOOK FOR COs. Tenth and latest edition of CCCO's reliable manual $1

MANUAL FOR DRAFT-AGE IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA, compiled by the Toronto Anti-Draft Program ... $2

CONSCRIPTION—A WORLD SURVEY, and resistance to it, compiled by Devi Prasad and Tony Smythe and issued by WRI ... $2.25

THE DRAFT? A complete study of all aspects of military conscription, prepared by AFSC ... $1.25

THE DRAFT LAW. A "college outline" of the draft law published by Yale University and written by J. Griffiths ... 50c

MANUAL FOR DRAFT-AGE AMERICANS IN EUROPE, by Howard Sacks issued by WRI ... 25c

A DRAFT LAW PRIMER, an FOR pamphlet by John Reints ... 15c

UP TIGHT WITH THE DRAFT, popular WRL pamphlet now in its 7th printing ... 10c, 12 for $1, 100 for $5.

YOU & THE DRAFT, a leaflet single copies free, $1 per 100, $7 per 100 (plus postage)

## GLENN SMILEY ON LATIN AMERICA

Pacifist concern with the nations of Latin America is growing, thanks in part to men like Glenn Smiley, former FOR staff member, who now is devoting his efforts to introducing nonviolent means of social and political revolution in Latin America.

The WRL executive committee met with Glenn for an extended briefing at its December 10 meeting. Glenn recently had conducted seminars in nonviolence in Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico. Latin American experts increasingly believe that major social revolutions are coming in Latin America. It is Glenn's view that such revolutions will probably fail, if they are violent, because of the new sophistication of the U.S. government, and that therefore the hope for a social revolution rests more with developing techniques of nonviolence.

A year and a half ago WRL met with Danilo Dolci, leader of nonviolence in Sicily when he was on his way to a special conference in Montevideo to discuss Gandhian techniques and how they might be used in Latin America.

As that meeting, Glenn asked Dolci about his attitude toward violent revolutionary action such as that of Che Guevara in Bolivia.

Dolci replied that in his view, pacifists should not try to interfere with actions such as Che's but simply to acquaint Latin Americans with the alternative of NONviolent revolution.

WRL already has given direct financial support to pacifists in Puerto Rico and presently plans to add to its regular literature list more materials on the Latin American situation.

### WRL Financial Problem Grows

During the past year contributions to WRL fell off somewhat but our budget has not been cut. We are now running on an increasing deficit. Unusual expenses in the months to come include the special expense of being forced to move to a new office at a higher rent and with several thousand dollars required to put the new building into shape, and the need to raise the funds needed to host the Triennial WRI Conference in this country at the end of August.

You will be receiving the January fund appeal soon and we urge all members and friends of WRL to respond to it as generously and as swiftly as they can.

## SENTENCE MINUTEMEN WHO RAIDED CNVA FARM

New England CNVA wrote a letter requesting mercy for the six Minutemen who raided its Voluntown farm in the early morning hours of August 24 and the judge mentioned the letter at the sentencing.

However, he sentenced three of the Minutemen to 2½ to 10 years, one to 1 to 5 years, a blind man who was involved to 1 year and an 80-year-old man to 1 year suspended. When the trial opened, following the selection of a jury and arguments by attorneys, all six defendants pleaded guilty.

"We still are guarded 24 hours a day by State Police who either sit out in front or down the road and cruise back and forth slowly at night, leading us to mistake them for more attackers," writes Jon Ross in "Direct Action," New England CNVA's publication. "We also have our own watch at night in order to alert the whole camp in case of attack."

## PLAN WHILE ALIVE FOR WRL AFTER DEATH

Recently the War Resisters League received a $1000 bequest from the estate of the late James A. Eastman.

Friends and members of the League may insure continuance of League work after death by providing for it in their wills as James A. Eastman did.

The suggested form for bequests is as follows:

"I bequeath ... dollars ($ ) to the War Resisters League, Inc. incorporated under the laws of New York State, with headquarters at Room 1025, 5 Beekman Street, New York, N.Y. 10038 for use in its pursuit of the objectives set forth in the statement of purpose of the War Resisters League."

## IN BRIEF

As this issue goes to press, National Mobilization is gearing for a major demonstration in Washington January 18-20 in conjunction with President Nixon's inauguration. The demonstration will include a mass march and rally, a counter-inaugural ball and an organized presence along the inaugural parade route.

Maris Cakars, WRL staff member, is on a month's visit to Cuba. With him is Karl Bissinger, a member of our executive committee. Norma Becker, also an executive committee member, returned recently from a visit of several weeks there. We hope to present their views in the next issue of WRL NEWS, as well as in WIN magazine.

# AMNESTY NOW

**by David McReynolds**

The war in Vietnam has cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of people, but the casualty rate is greater than can be seen by viewing the graveyards where Vietnamese or American boys lie with their broken dreams. There are the countless thousands who will always bear the marks of napalm or bullets or torture, limping down the years without legs, reaching without arms, sleeping without lovers. Long after the jungles have reclaimed old battlefields, the forests have refoliated themselves, and the debris of our invading army has sunk into swamps or rusted into the earth, the scars of this war will remain with us.

In a political sense this war flows from the nature of our society, and while its causes are more complex than some on the Left believe, it is also true that the war is part of a pattern, one of many interventions, that it fits into our foreign policy and is not simply an accident of history. But this war has, in its consequences, brought disaster to both nations that were involved in it. It laid waste the land and cities of Vietnam and it has more deeply divided our own nation than any event since the Civil War.

In a political sense it is impossible—or immoral—to draw a veil over the past decade, to refuse to learn from Vietnam, to refuse to continue our struggle for the kind of basic changes that are needed so that we have the kind of society which will never again inflict so cruel a war upon the world. If the war ended tomorrow the struggle to change our society must continue.

### For ALL Those Who Said "NO"

But the nation as a whole can do more than study the past. If we cannot bring back those hundreds of thousands who died, we can set at liberty those who are variously called prisoners of war, prisoners of conscience, or political prisoners.There are hundreds held in our own federal prisons and military stockades for their opposition to this war. There are thousands held in prisons in South Vietnam for their political beliefs. There are American pilots held in prisons in North Vietnam. There are thousands upon thousands of young men in exile in Canada or France or Sweden. There are thousands here who have been indicted and await trial, or who may still be indicted for turning in their draft cards. There are many military deserters living covertly in our midst, fearful of being picked up and sent to prison. There are men like Coffin, Goodman, Ferber and Spock who have been sentenced to prison for supporting resistance to this war.

For all these, whether American pilots or military deserters, whether men who accepted prison or men who fled to Canada—for all these—we must ask a general and total amnesty. This is not an appeal to the government that it act with mercy. It is an appeal to the people of this nation that, acting through the agency of the government, they recognize in part what horror we brought to the world and atone for it in part.

Does a fight for amnesty for war resisters in prison mean, some have asked, that we don't care about the others in prison? The blacks driven to crime by the ghetto? The youth made into criminals because of the marijuana laws? No, it doesn't mean that. It does mean that any movement will fight to protect its own people. It does mean that these men were the front line in the fight and they have suffered the most from having waged it. The political prisoners must be released because the very idea of *political* prisoners is wrong.

Hopefully the struggle for amnesty will focus public attention on the whole system of courts, jails, and "the crime of punishment." Hopefully, also, many resisters will, as they are released from prison, make prison reform, or possibly abolition of the prison system, a central concern of their lives.

Is it right, some ask, to ask amnesty equally for deserters and draft resisters and those in exile? Are not some more worthy than others? The point, however, is precisely that when a nation has gone through a traumatic experience like Vietnam it must not then "pick and choose," but act swiftly and generously toward all. Is a deserter living in daily terror of being discovered less worthy than a man who serves a year in prison? What is important is not the fact that different men and women resisted this war in different ways, but that *they did resist it.* It is that which unifies them.

### Without Exception

Should we not offer a more "constructive plan" to the government, one which they might accept, such as releasing those men who agree to do alternative service? No. We have nothing to negotiate. We have no control over what the government shall do, but we do have control over the demands around which we unite. And those demands are summed up in the statement that we want a general, total amnesty for all those in jail, under indictment, or in exile because of their opposition to the war.

The power of the amnesty movement now beginning can be sensed when we think of the 1000 people who visited Allenwood at Christmas time. One may fault aspects of that action but one cannot ignore that it was the most dramatic statement in our history that those outside the prison walls identified with those inside. We urge the parents and friends of every man in prison, every man in Canada, every man in a military stockade, to join with pacifists on the demand that this nation take the first steps back toward its own rehabilitation by granting general, total, unconditional amnesty to those who had the courage, at whatever level of their being, to resist a war that was criminal. A century from now historians will honor these men, deserters and prison inmates together. Let us honor them now, who gave us our only honor in a dark time. Amnesty now. Amnesty for all.

## A REPORT ON THE ATLANTA WORKSHOP

**by Henry Bass**

During the year and a half that Sue and I coordinated the Atlanta Workshop in Nonviolence, we were often told that the hardest part of our job would be making sure that AWIN continued after we left. This turned out not to be so. A large part of the credit must go to the United States Army, which last April discharged Denis Adelsberger as an "undesirable" after Denis had refused to wear his uniform or cooperate further with the war system. Denis started working for AWIN right away and took over as coordinator on June 1. In September AWIN was again fortunate when Peter Grannis, who had just graduated from Oglethorpe College, came to work with Denis as co-ordinator.

When you start an organization and are involved with it in one way or another practically all your waking hours, seven days a week, as Sue and I were with AWIN for well over a year, you cannot help being terribly anxious when you let go. Notwithstanding this, our satisfaction with the progress that AWIN has made under Denis and Pete's guidance is simply enormous. Not only have they been able to continue old programs but they have also accomplished some things at which we had failed.

The largest job Dennis and Pete have is draft counseling. Denis concentrates on counseling men in the army and Pete on those facing the draft. Partly because Georgia has proportionately more military personnel than any other state (thanks to the fact that for many years Georgians chaired the Armed Forces Committees in *both* Houses of Congress) and partly because of the widespread publicity Denis' own case received, military counseling has vastly increased. Civilian counseling has also increased. Those who think the war is over simply haven't talked to any 19-year-olds or men about to graduate from college. Since AFSC no longer provides draft counseling in Atlanta, referring inquiries to us, AWIN does virtually all the counseling in the area. There are a few ministers and college teachers who do preliminary counseling but they refer those seriously interested to AWIN for a follow-up in the technical points.

AWIN continues to double as a sort of peace center for the Atlanta peace community, getting out the newsletter to over 500 Atlantans, selling literature, making picket signs, and answering inquiries that come daily. Most recently the AWIN office was the center for organizing Atlanta's October 27 GI Day rally. General Hugh Hester spoke and several GI's participated. The *Atlanta Constitution* credited us with over 400 demonstrators. AWIN's extensive leafleting continues. Most recently it has been trying to leaflet the induction center every day.

Outside Atlanta—Denis and Pete work near Army bases, counseling the young men who come to us from as far away as Knoxville, Tennessee and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and helping to get other groups started in the South.

This month we will have another $50 phone bill from calls from GI's resisting in the Army. Many must call collect since the Army has made them forfeit their pay for refusing cooperation. Denis also has been visiting the bases in the area to talk to those who have written or called him personally. He will go to Little Rock, Arkansas next month to help get a draft information office going.

Nearly $100 every month is spent for paper for our leafleting and for an underground school paper put out by high school AWINers to fight compulsory ROTC and publicize conscientious objection. Perhaps AWIN could cut back on some of these activities, but I wouldn't want to see any of them stop.

## "A PACIFIST WAR MEMORIAL"

This is the headline over an unusual feature article in *Le Monde*, Paris counterpart of the *New York Times*, by René Grumbach.

The clipping was sent to WRL by Madame Renée Martinet, an 80-year-old French pacifist, who joined the War Resisters League in 1966 after corresponding with Scott Bates, who compiled the anti-war poetry for the 1966 and 1967 peace calendars. In fact, a page of one of these calendars is dedicated to Madame Martinet's late husband, Marcel Martinet, who was a poet, playwright and lifetime opponent of war.

In her letter, Madame Martinet, a former high school teacher, tells about some of her peace activities during world war 1 and her close association with Romain Rolland, the noted pacifist author. She emphasizes "I have always been opposed to all war."

But, to return to the interesting clipping which she sent, Grumbach writes: "Among the monuments honoring the war dead in France, the one of Saint-Martin-d'Estréaux, near the Loire river, is unique: it bears, engraved in stone, an urgent plea for no more wars.

"It was erected in 1922 by Mayor Pierre Monot (a cousin of Madame Martinet). In 1931, Monsieur Monot died, after having led the municipality for 23 years and represented the county on the general assembly for 33 years. Some time after his death, vandals smeared the pacifist inscription but they were never apprehended. It was not until 1947, two years after the end of world war 2, that the monument was inaugurated officially."

The inscription says in part: "Hasn't war yet instigated sufficient suffering and misery and killed enough men to in turn prompt in men the intelligence and the will to kill war?

" 'If you want peace, prepare for war' is a dangerous slogan. 'If you want peace, prepare for peace' must be the slogan of the future.

"If all the effort expended and the money spent for war had been spent for peace, for social, industrial and economic progress, man's lot would be far different.

"Cursed be wars and their instigators!"

Alongside this inscription are photographs of 64 children of the region killed during world war 1. At the end of world war 2, 11 more children were added. The total number of dead in world war 1, according to the inscription, was over 13 million.

The monument at Saint Martin-d'Estréaux, however, may not be the only one in France with an anti-war message. Madame Martinet has sent clippings from the letters column of *Le Monde* by Bernard Lyon-Caen, who after reading Grumbach's article, wrote: "In a similar spirit, one must mention the war memorial at Gentioux (Creuse): a child wearing wooden shoes and an apron, a cap in his left hand and shaking his right fist toward these words, inscribed in stone beneath the list of dead: 'Cursed be war!' "


**SPECIAL ISSUE OF *WIN* MAGAZINE**

*Alternatives*—while some radicals are fighting in the streets, others are quietly experimenting with new ways of living. First-person experiences from houseboats, backwoods farms, city parks and more.

*Conspirators*—the exclusive story of New Orleans D.A. Jim Garrison's investigation of a plot to kill President Kennedy, and his case against Clay Shaw.

40c each from WIN, 5 Beekman St., N.Y.C. 10038

# A.J. — We Love You

*Abraham Johannes Muste,*

*January 8, 1885 - February 11, 1967*

### FOR A.J. MUSTE

**by Walter Lowenfels**

*(adapted from Petrarch, Canzione 128)*

Today (he said) gives us always
new reasons to live in others
even those with bird seeds for hearts
who don't want to live
and don't know how to love
Nothing can keep them too from
arriving
when the sky opens
and the sun lands
full of tomorrow's peace
everyone is waiting to kiss
after their napalmed yesterdays.
MEANWHILE (he said)
with our deeds we are waking you
asking you don't stay asleep:
don't turn your backs on the truth:
Listen to us: hear us
How can we stop being afraid?
Out of my heart I'm telling you
calling on you
pleading with you
hear us: O peace
peace
peace

*(reprinted by permission of the author)*

### Literature and Memorial Tapes

Essays of A.J. Muste, edited by Nat Hentoff—$7

Peace Agitator: Biography of A.J. Muste by Nat Hentoff—special, $3

WIN Magazine's Memorial Issue (few left)—25c

Liberation Magazine's Memorial Issue—$1.50

* * *

Robert Calese has brought together four tape recordings that make up the A.J. Muste Memorial Series. The complete set of monaural, two-track, 3¾ in. tapes is $20. For information on these tapes, singly or as a set, write the WRL office.

* * *

. . . and a button: Jerry Elmer, a High School student from Great Neck, N.Y., offered his own tribute to A.J. by creating buttons that read "There is no Way to Peace, Peace is the Way—A.J. Muste.' A very few of these are still available for 25c each.

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The first of the Puerto Rican draft trials in San Juan ended with acquittal on a technicality and the cases of 92 other induction refusers already indicted have been postponed and removed from the calendar for a second time.

# . . . Norman, Also

*Norman Mattoon Thomas*

*November 20, 1884—December 19, 1968*

**by Edward Gottlieb**

Norman Thomas once was introduced at a peace demonstration as the man who never asked for power. The chairman, Dr. George W. Hartmann, then a most eminent social psychologist at Columbia University and chairman of the WRL, explained that Norman never asked for power to carry out his own wide responsibilities and his deepest commitments. Those who participated with him in the most exciting of Socialist Party conventions, or in the intimacy of a committee meeting know how well Thomas kept out of power struggles and partisan political advantage.

It was this very personal attribute of powerlessness that gave him such human social potential, such spiritual resources to move and teach two whole generations of soul-searching Americans. As some would write our songs, Norman Thomas composed the moral principles we needed for an interdependent society. He gave us the social awareness to understand that we could only survive in community. His own personal involvements seemed to say, "My friends are those I need; who needs me is my BROTHER." He kept on restoring our faith by proving that integrity was really negotiable.

Unfortunately, Norman—who in life could defy all enemies against his vision of justice and peace—may not survive nearly as well in the memorials set up for him by the most honorable men who have selected themselves as his best friends and disciples. They will bury Norman under their honors, with artificial flowers in barren soil. Those who celebrate themselves for shunning the confrontations of the last years think they can fulfill the work of the man who confronted Mayor Hague in Jersey City, challenged Texas in behalf of the Communist, Gitlow, and redeemed Terre Haute, Indiana, from Fascist terror.

We war resisters, who are ourselves only in the crawling stage of the exploration of pacifism, can perhaps best understand the man who inspired us with his own witness, yet stayed on the threshold only out of sheer and great humility. He honored the "purest" of us in taking our Peace Award in 1966. He gave us the theme of our lives,—pacifists, democrats, socialists, humanists,—when with the title of his early book he posed the rhetorical question, IS CONSCIENCE A CRIME? May I end what I hoped is a brief eulogy with some quotes from this little volume (Vanguard Press) for our close friends, left and right, and pacifist.

"No problems are more important to our generation or are more inextricably interwoven with the economic and political pattern of our social order than the relation of the individual to the state (which must not be confused with society) and the question of how to end war before war ends civilization and perhaps humanity itself." (Preface)

"This assertion of the right of the individual to refuse obedience to the state even in the emergency of war or to lay down limits to which his obedience must be confined is the essence of conscientious objection. So revolutionary are its implications that it deserves study even though the number of objectors in the war [1917-18] was small. Its significance does not depend primarily on the reasoning power of the objectors or their personal ability or their character—important as these matters are—but in its existence as a practical affirmation that under certain circumstances civil disobedience may become a duty for which men will dare to suffer." *(page 3-4)*

"If the supremacy of a man's moral integrity over the demand of the god-state is ever worthy of respect, it is always worthy of respect whether the objection is to all war or to a given war; whether it seems to a man's fellow citizens reasonable or unreasonable." *(page 7)*

"What we want is a fellowship of free men, and social institutions are failures unless they can secure the maximum cooperation with the minimum coercion. The individual may in a true sense be the 'product of the group' but the group is only valuable as it permits personalities, not automatons, to emerge." *(page 6)*

# FROM WRL – WEST

## IT HAPPENED IN MONTEREY

**by Diane Weinberg**

A Christmas vigil was held—200 beautiful people including GIs. There are lots of COs at Fort Ord who are getting together and getting their heads and hearts together and talking, thinking and living peace. More lawyers are beginning to respond to GI needs (of course, Francis Heisler is there, inspiring us all). "Draft Help" has opened at Monterey Peninsula College and thoughts of resistance are beginning to be expressed.

It's hard to be "political" here in the Big Sur area. It's so beautiful and peaceful. But it's perhaps easier to be alive and to love—and isn't that what we're all about?

## ACTION ON BIAFRA — EAST AND WEST

Both in New York and San Francisco WRLers have demonstrated recently to end the war in Biafra.

In New York on January 11 as the Biafra Christmas Ship prepared to sail with emergency food supplies, the Emergency Committee on Nigeria & Biafra conducted a posterwalk concentrating on the main shopping center.

Leaflets headed "Stop the Killing—Feed the People" called upon the U.S. to "use every possible influence on Britain, France and the Soviet Union to join in an arms embargo to both sides and to urge that either the UN or the Organization of African Unity offer to mediate the conflict and secure a ceasefire."

The Emergency Committee, which prior to the poster walk had held several vigils at the U.S. Mission to the UN, was initiated by Bradford Lyttle and Peter Kiger and is headquartered at the WRL office.

In San Francisco WRL-West on December 20 conducted a picket demonstration at the British Consulate. The group demanded "that the consul ask his government to call for an immediate halt to the Federal advance, that it cease its arms supplies to Federal Nigeria immediately, that it demand the Federal Army to lift its blockade of all relief routes."

In Washington, Pat Kennedy, New England CNVAer and veteran of the Port Chicago Vigil, has for several weeks engaged in a fast at the State Department and at the home of Undersecretary Nicholas Katzenbach.

## WINTER SOLSTICE ON TWIN PEAKS

**by Paul Obluda**

For the last two years a few hundred of us who live near San Francisco have gathered together just before sunset on the night of the winter solstice on Twin Peaks, in a shabby, asphalted parking lot that gives a lovely view of the city lights coming on in the winter cold and of the sun moving down into the Pacific. I dimly know why we are there. The War Resisters League for which I work sponsors the quiet event. I would go even so. We go because we feel good being there, watching the sun make its northernmost descent. This time the television is not interested, the newspapers think that one year's celebration of the winter solstice must be very like the last one and that in any case a small group of people concerned about peace and how it connects with the sun is of little interest. We dance some; it is very cold for San Francisco but the sun is visible. There is music. We are there because our friend Ida Wilder dreamed of a time when people could return to the sort of pagan observance of the sun's flight that we have heard of from places too secret to tell. Robert Duncan is a poet and he reads his poems. People shuffle in a sort of dance as he reads, trying both to keep warm and to find the rhythm that will insure that the sun will not simply continue its course to the north that the days will not continue to shrink by three minutes each until our extinction is foregone.

In 1967 we felt some tiny hope. Three hundred of our sisters and brothers were in a local jail for protesting the draft. We thought they were a wave like those we saw below us. In 1968, I, at least, feel a greater sense of how hard it all is. In the last year our brothers have been taken away one at a time. We ask sometimes, "What happened to ————?" And the answer is that he is in prison.

But we dance and warm ourselves and hear good words and good music and see good things. The sun did set as we thought it would and since then has begun to resume its course to the south as we suspected. Next year, there will be some of us on the mountain again and perhaps the celebration of the winter solstice will be even more beautiful than it was at the end of the darkest day of 1968.

## OLDTIME WRLer DIES

Frieda Langer, WRL executive committee member up until the late 1940s and a pacifist from World War I, died on December 21 at the age of 73. A memorial service in her honor was held January 8 at Community Church in New York.

She withdrew from the League, as did its secretary Abe Kaufman, in disagreement with the policies of World War II prison COs who wanted WRL to become an action-oriented organization. Both Frieda and Abe thought that WRL should be simply a registry for COs which would offer draft counseling.

Following their withdrawal, both worked without remuneration for the Metropolitan Board for CO's, the only draft counseling agency in New York which pre-dates the Vietnam war. Over the years both before and after Frieda quit WRL, she counseled thousands of COs. She helped lay the groundwork for at least 2 important Supreme Court decisions on CO rights—the 1952 Nugent case, which made hitherto secret FBI information available to the defense and the 1965 Jakobsen case, which was tried by the Supreme Court along with the well-known Seeger case, resulting in the ruling that belief in a Supreme Being is not essential for CO status.

## MANY THANKS

Very low in priorities for staff work is the acknowledgement of contributions. So in order to save time and expense, the staff takes this opportunity to thank all of you who during the past few months, sent in contributions—large and small.

## SAVE EXPENSE

You can help us save time and the expense of wasted post office fees if you will promptly send us your change of address including zip code. Also, please mention your old address.

## ENROLLMENT BLANK

*Send to War Resisters League*
*5 Beekman Street, New York, N.Y. 10038*

WAR IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.
I THEREFORE AM DETERMINED NOT TO SUPPORT ANY KIND OF WAR, INTERNATIONAL OR CIVIL, AND TO STRIVE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ALL THE CAUSES OR WAR

*signature* _____

*address* _____

*city* _____ *state* _____

*occupation* _____ *age* _____